

## **Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace paragraph 0072 with the following amended paragraph:

[0072] An equal amount (1  $\mu$ g) of total RNA from control and experimental mouse kidneys was reverse transcribed with Superscript II<sup>®</sup> reverse transcriptase (Life Technologies) in the presence of random hexamers according to the manufacturer's instructions. PCR was accomplished using a kit (Roche, Indianapolis, IN) and the following primers:

Mouse NGAL sense 5'-CACCACGGACTACAACCAGTTCGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:1);

Mouse NGAL antisense 5'-TCAGTTGTCAATGCATTGGTCGGTG-3' (SEQ ID NO:2);

Human NGAL sense 5'-TCAGCCGTCGATACTGGTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:3); and

Human NGAL antisense 5'-CCTCGTCCGAGTGGTGAGCAC-3' (SEQ ID NO:4).